



# THE Macdonald Farm Journal

VOLUME 14 No. 4

DECEMBER 1953

F A R M • S C H O O L • H O M E

*Season's  
Greetings*





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# As we see it

## Ring Out The Old

We have reached the end of another year; looking back it has been little different, in some respects, from the one which went before, while in others it has been vastly different.

On the international scene we have had recurring crises, first in one part of the world then in another. In this respect the pattern has changed little. It doesn't bother us too much though for we are getting used to living with the "cold war."

On the hopeful side we can all be thankful that the fighting has stopped in Korea, we at least have this to be thankful for on Christmas Day, but for most of the other international problems it is still wait and see.

There is little improvement in the world food situation and it is in this sphere that we are in the greatest danger. A hungry world is not a reasonable world; it won't sit down and talk things over in a dispassionate manner. Let us think of this at Christmas also.

One of our greatest difficulties lies in the fact that we find it so difficult to comprehend or imagine the lives of these millions of Asians and Africans who suffer daily from the pangs of hunger or mal-nutrition. They are too remote from us, their way of life so vastly different, they might almost be from another world. It is a problem we have to face for it represents, at the end of this year as at the beginning, the single greatest threat to our security and well-being.

On the home front we have seen a continued drop in farm prices; a drop which has increased the squeeze between the price we pay and the price we receive for goods and services.

Now here is a problem that is very much a personal problem. Each of us as individual farmers

has felt the full impact of this price drop. It makes us think and take action. That is the great difference between these two problems, the one remote, the other real.

This price drop is serious for all of us, though not as serious as it was twenty or even ten years ago, for there are fewer farmers today; we make up a smaller proportion of the total population. But it is serious enough to cause the agricultural implement people to lay workers off or to go on short time.

It won't go too far though for we have floor prices and government purchases to cushion the drop and give us a chance to adopt more efficient management practices in most of the hardest hit commodities, such as, butter, hogs and concentrated products. Labor income too keeps going up; it is at an all-time high. Credit purchases are going up, people still want to buy and are buying. Twenty years ago a fall in farm prices would have had a grave effect upon these other factors, today the effect has been slight.

Indeed this continued high rate of spending by urban people will help to keep farm prices buoyant, and may well be a big factor in raising the level of prices in those farm commodities which are now depressed. It is a hopeful sign upon which to end the old year.

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*To all our readers we say —*

**"MERRY CHRISTMAS**

*and a*

**HAPPY NEW YEAR"**

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# Where The Tall Corn Grows

by G. Ashton

Gordon Ashton worked at Macdonald College until he joined the staff of the Animal Husbandry Department at Iowa State College. Here he gives us some impressions of farming in Iowa.

**I**OWA is known as the State where the tall corn grows. Whenever you meet an Iowan, sooner or later he'll get around to telling you about his State's corn. You'll think he's exaggerating, as I did, until you drive through the State in late September, for that's when you really see corn. Acres and acres of it, so tall that it creates a serious driving hazard at road intersections, for it's so tall that you can't see over the top of it. The State claimed a world's record for height of corn stalks when one of its farmers produced a giant stalk measuring twenty-six feet eleven inches in height!

Iowa farmers grew close to eleven million acres of corn in 1952, plus some six million acres of oats, one and one half million acres of soybeans and some thousands of acres of alfalfa. You can well understand that with all this tall corn around it's difficult to see any other crop, to say nothing of the twenty million pigs they produce annually, that is, until the corn has been harvested, and then all that's left to see are the pigs for all the other crops have already been harvested.

Hog production is the major enterprise in Iowa. They are used as a means of marketing the corn. Dr. Craft and Professor Anderson in their book, "A Century of Farming in Iowa, 1846-1946," tell us of the beginnings of hog production in the State. "Hog production," they said, "became important in Iowa soon after the settlement of the State began. There was a demand for pork and lard in the eastern part of the country and abroad. Corn was a staple crop in Iowa from the beginning. It was produced in quantity in excess of the demand at prices profitable to the pioneer farmers."

Corn thrived on the new land. Although markets at which corn could be sold were established first along the Mississippi, then along the interior rivers and later



Winter set-up showing shelters, self-feeders and water tank which is heated with cylinder gas.

along the Missouri, corn had to be hauled to them in wagons, carts and sleds. Many farmers were more than a day's journey away and the price of corn was only eight to ten cents per bushel so that an acre's production would bring only four to five dollars. As a result farmers fed the corn to hogs.

The numbers of hogs in Iowa have varied according to the favorableness of the feeding ratio. When corn was high priced, farmers raised fewer hogs; when corn was cheap hog production expanded."

## Out All Year

The local farmers don't keep their hogs indoors as you do in Canada. Even though the temperature often falls to ten and twenty degrees below freezing and blizzards frequently sweep the State, the hogs seem to do all right.

During the Spring and Summer the hogs stay on pasture as long as possible. They spend the Fall and Winter in the corn fields or steer feeding lots; for shelter the farmers provide them with small portable cabins which can be easily moved to clean ground.

The Iowa farmer mass-produces pigs. Two years ago he marketed twenty-one million hogs, two thirds being spring farrowed. Altogether forty percent of the State's farm income comes from hogs—a sizeable proportion.

There is no uniformity among the pigs marketed as there is in Canada. For one thing there is no generally accepted standard at which to aim; they have a large number of pure breeds of different types and crosses being fed; the packers show only a limited interest in the kind of carcass to be processed, and there are small price differentials between grades of slaughter hogs.

They are trying to improve this situation but there still many people who feel that the farmer should be left alone to feed any kind of hog he wishes. However, increasing numbers of people feel that the stress should be laid upon meat production rather than fat.

There is no doubt but that hog raising is profitable to the Iowa farmer, but it's not all plain sailing, for there are many diseases to which the hogs are susceptible, and once any of these diseases get into a herd the farmer is in for a spell of trouble. The five main diseases are: cholera, brucellosis, erysipelas, scours and rhinitis or bull-



First litter gilts getting supplementary corn on cobs. Water and protein concentrates are fed back at the barn.

nose as it is called. Rhinitis is relatively new to the swine men here and many of them are a bit panicky about it, but it seems safe to say that they will learn to live with it in the long run just as they have done with cholera and erysipelas. Regarding scours, it would seem that the greater use of antibiotics in lactation and starter rations have cut down on the ravages of this disease.

### Good Feed Makes a Good Hog

Iowa swine men are very conscious of the important part played by good nutrition in a healthy herd. By and large Iowa hogs are fed well-balanced rations. An intensive research program and the many activities of the extension department have contributed a lot to this feeding program. The feed manufacturers too have done a good job of feed formulation and advertising.

Sanitation also plays a big part as a control measure against the spread of disease. The farmers use as effective control measure as they can, which include: vaccination, rotation of pasture and dry lot areas and the thorough cleaning of housing and feeding equipment.

Since corn plays such a large part in the feeding of hogs, it is necessary for the farmers to supplement this diet with protein. Animal sources of protein are in short supply; for instance, abattoir products don't nearly meet the demand and fishmeal, an excellent source of protein, is at a disadvantage as it has to be transported such long distances. However, soybeans are being grown locally on a large scale, and soybean oilmeal is used extensively as a protein supplement. Alfalfa meal has been used, a great deal, but as larger quantities of synthetic nutrients become available its use has decreased considerably.

Self feeders are used almost exclusively, but as swine production becomes more specialized, the use of completely mixed rations is on the increase, and this



Late fall shots being brought along for market.

may increase the difficulties of self feeding. The reason for this is that these mixed rations, which are mainly corn and soybeans, contain a definite protein level of 14, 12 or 10 percent protein, and the Iowa Station recommends that these levels be fed to pigs from 30 to 75 pounds, 75 to 150 pounds and 150 to 220 pounds. Now when pigs are allowed free choice no such rigid control of protein can be made. This is a problem the farmers will have to face.

The Research Stations are interested in breeding hogs for meat rather than fat, and one of the current breeding programs is concerned with a type of pig that will reach 200 to 225 pounds at five to five and one half months and yield a carcass with high percentage of lean cuts. On the problems of nutrition the researchers are studying minimum protein, phosphorus, calcium and B complex vitamin requirements when pigs are maintained on a corn-soybean-oilmeal ration. The Research Stations keep in close touch with the farmers of the State, they work on practical problems that vitally concern the hog raiser. Iowa is a corn and hog State, the best in the Union, and they aim to keep it that way.

### Water Pipes That Won't Freeze

Polythene piping is a new, lightweight, flexible, rust-proof material that is making water systems possible on many Canadian farms whose owners had hesitated to put in a system using the conventional galvanized pipe with its tendency to deteriorate in many types of soil, and to split if water were left in it in cold weather.

To take one example; Eric Webster at North Hatley has recently laid a mile of polythene pipe to bring water from a spring-fed reservoir to a farmhouse and cottages on the lakeshore. Since the system would not be used during the winter it was possible to lay the pipe close to the surface. Where the pipe passed through pasture land, a single furrow was plowed and the pipe was merely unrolled and laid in the furrow, then earth was shovelled back over it. In cultivated fields the furrow was deepened a little so that the pipe would be deep enough not to be hit by cultivating implements.

Polythene pipe is flexible and can be run around rocks and trees without any extra fittings that would be needed to make angles in ordinary piping. Once



Polythene plastic piping is science's latest contribution to farm water systems. A boy could carry the roll of pipe shown here; the same length of metal pipe would need a truck to move it.

installed it can stay in the ground indefinitely, for it does not deteriorate. Under normal pressure, the pipe

(continued on page 9)



## Keeping Christmas

*"Heap on more wood, the wind is chill;  
But let it whistle as it will,  
We'll keep our Christmas merry still."*

—Scott.

Here are a few tried and true recipes which may help in the preparation of your Christmas celebrations.

### Pastry

This can't go wrong; it is always tender and flaky.

5 cups pastry flour  
2 tsp. salt  
2 cups. shortening (not butter)  
1 egg

Sift flour and salt together. Cut in shortening; first half finely, second half coarsely. Beat egg. Place beaten egg in measuring cup and then fill to brim with cold water; mix. Add egg-water mixture to dry ingredients, sprinkling it in and mixing lightly with a fork. The dough is quite moist so chill for at least an hour in order to make rolling easier. Pastry shells are baked in hot oven of 450°F to 475°F.

### Filling for Maple Syrup Tarts

For those who do not care for mincemeat or who have a particularly sweet tooth.

1 cup maple syrup  
2 tbsp. pastry flour  
2 eggs  
1 tbsp. butter  
1 tbsp. vanilla

Add maple syrup slowly to flour, mixing smoothly. Add this mixture to the beaten eggs, mixing well. Add melted butter and vanilla. Pour immediately into uncooked tart shells and bake in a hot oven of at least 425°F.

### Swedish Cookies

Shortbread fans will like this.

2 cups butter  
1 and 1/4 cups fruit sugar  
2 egg yolks (not beaten)  
1 cup blanched almonds  
3 and 1/2 cups pastry flour

Chop the almonds *very* finely. Cream the butter and sugar thoroughly. Add unbeaten egg yolks and mix well. Add almonds and mix, then the flour.

This may be used unchilled from a cookie press or chill the dough well and roll out. Cut with a doughnut cutter and decorate your wreaths with candied cherries and peel to resemble holly wreathes. Bake in a moderate oven of 350°F.

### Parisian Sweets

For the children, and I think adults too.

1 cup dates (stoned)  
1 cup dried figs  
1 cup seeded raisins  
1 cup shelled nuts  
Grated rind of 1 orange  
Grated rind of 1/2 lemon

Pass all ingredients together twice through the food chopper, using the finest knife. Turn onto a board which has been generously sprinkled with icing sugar, mix thoroughly. Roll mixture into balls the size of marbles and coat with granulated sugar, finely chopped nuts or cocoanut. You may instead make the mixture into a roll and cut off 1/3 inch slices and dip in melted chocolate instead of nuts or sugar.

*Note*—Any other dried fruit may be substituted for one of the above or made an addition, e.g. prunes.

### Salted Nuts

Nuts, blanched  
Salt  
Oil

Sprinkle nuts very lightly with oil, using not more than one teaspoon to a cup of nuts. Spread in a single layer on a cookie sheet or shallow baking pan. Brown delicately in a moderately hot oven of 375°F, stirring occasionally that they may colour evenly. Sprinkle with salt after removing from the oven and spread out on paper towels (unglazed paper) to absorb any surface oil. Almonds, peanuts, pecans, English walnuts, Brazil nuts and filberts may all be prepared in this manner. Each variety should, however, be toasted separately as some brown more quickly than others.

*Note*—All the recipes call for flour measured after sifting. 1 cup pastry flour equals 7/8 cup of All Purpose flour.

# Why Potatoes Spoil in Storage

Too low temperatures cause a sweetening of the potato due to the accumulation of sugars. At temperatures down to 40 degrees F. this is barely noticeable except with potatoes used for crisps, chips or French fries. Below 40 degrees F. the sweetening over a period of time may become objectionable. At 30 degrees F. to 32 degrees F., sweetening quickly occurs.

Low temperatures can also cause a breakdown in the flesh of the potato. This takes the form of a reddish-brown or mahogany-coloured area. At 32 degrees F., this requires about six weeks at least and longer periods at 36 degrees F. Some varieties are more susceptible than others, with Katahdin probably the worst offender. Irish Cobbler is also susceptible while Green Mountain is highly resistant.

Freezing—and actual freezing does not take place unless the temperature goes below 28 degrees F.—causes the issue to become soft and watery when it thaws out and the potato has a musty odour.

As in the field, exposure to light in storage causes potatoes to become green and bitter to the taste. When eaten, such potatoes cause digestive upsets or may even be toxic.

Sprouting is a natural development of the potato but can be one of the most serious storage problems. Sprouting produces an immediate loss in tuber weight and nutrient content. When sprouts become long, matting occurs, causing an air seal and results in excessive heating and suffocation.

A temperature of 38 degrees F., is required to keep potatoes dormant. At 40 degrees F. a slight swelling of buds is followed by sprouting at the extreme limits of storage life. Temperatures above 40 degrees F. can be tolerated only for a few months.

In recent years chemicals have been discovered whereby sprouting of potato tubers can be retarded for several months when held at temperatures higher than those considered ideal for proper storing of potatoes.



Walter Kilgour holding Kilmac Winnie Marathon.

## A Grand Champion

Walter Kilgour of Kilmac Farm, Shawville, P.Q., is the owner of the Grand Champion female at the Ottawa Winter Fair. He's shown here holding Kilmac Winnie Marathon, his three year old champ. Besides showing prize cattle, Walter finds time to be chairman of the Pontiac Farm Forum and a member of the Provincial Farm Forum Executive.

## Skim Milk Powder Sales Up

Domestic disappearance of skimmed milk powder in the first six months of 1953 was one-third greater than in the corresponding period in 1952. According to D.B.S. this increase in domestic sales which has occurred in recent years has been the result of increases in small package sales. The amount of skim milk powder packed in consumer-sized packages for retail sale increased from 2.7 million pounds in 1951 to 4.8 million pounds in 1952.

## Winter Beef On Grass

During recent years grass silage has grown in popularity as a feed for wintering beef cattle and many questions are being asked about its feeding value. From the result obtained so far at Ottawa it seems that good grass silage, when fed with hay, is almost as good as corn silage for wintering beef cattle.

In Eastern Canada grains are expensive, whereas roughages, either dry or succulent, can be grown abundantly and economically. Corn silage has proved to be an excellent feed for beef cattle wherever it can be grown. On the other hand, grass silage has advantages over corn silage or hay in that (1) it can be made during weather conditions which are often unsuitable for hay making, (2) it requires less labour than corn silage, (3) it will produce one and sometimes two cuttings and an aftermath for supplemental feeding.

Mr. Jordan from the Central Experimental Farm, Ottawa, reports that for the past two years tests have been conducted with two questions in mind:

1. Is grass silage a suitable feed for wintering beef cattle of different ages?
2. How does it compare with corn silage?

Pregnant beef cows receiving a ration of hay plus grass silage made almost as good gains as a similar lot of cows fed hay plus corn silage. Both groups wintered well and there was no significant difference in the bloom and condition of the cows or in the birth weight of their calves.

For growing animals it was found that when calves were wintered on an average of four pounds of hay, two pounds of grain, and about eighteen pounds of either grass or corn silage, they made equally good gains. Normal development and good condition were apparent in both groups and no noticeable difference could be observed.

# Farm Forum News And Views

The trend this year is to new Forums. Eight have reported so far, and they're not all clustered in one area either. For instance, there's one each at Abbotsford, Bishopton and Canterbury. There are three in Montcalm county, at Kildare, Rawdon and Wexford, another is near Lachute and another at Ormstown. This is good news.

These forums have got over the first big jump; now they've got to keep up enough steam to operate throughout the year, and that shouldn't be hard if they keep busy—if they realize that Farm Forum means more than reading the Guide and listening to the broadcasts. The best way we know to keep any Forum group alive is for the group to get working on a practical local problem, and that means all the members of the group not just one or two.

## February Series

- Feb. 1—Barriers To Trade.
- 8—What Grade, Madam?
- 15—Farm Policy In Relation To Production.
- 22—Fourth Night Feature.



Percy Chapman (right), retiring chairman of the Rouville-Shefford Farm Forum Council, shakes hands with the new chairman, Grant Payne, at the Fall Rally in Granby. At 21, Grant is the youngest member of the Provincial Farm Forum Council. He has already organized a new Forum in his district at Abbotsford.

## Take Time For Meetings

"I haven't time to go to meetings," is a fairly common expression among certain types of farmers. Well, it is fortunate for such people that many farmers, and frequently the busiest farmers in the community, take time to go to meetings and help to give study and leadership to their industry. And did you ever hear of a city



Walter Hodgemann taking over kitchen duties at the Compton Leadership Forum.

## Your Council Reports

The Quebec Farm Forum Council met recently at Macdonald College to deal with business that had arisen since September and to discuss plans for future action. Among the twenty-five present were many guests including Mrs. Le Baron, President, Quebec Women's Institute, Mrs. Ellard and Mrs. Taylor, also of the Q.W.I., and Dr. Brittain, Dr. Haviland, the new economics professor at the College, and Professor Hamilton.

The president, Mrs. Gilbert Telford, conducted the meeting. The main points of policy considered and acted upon were:

That the Quebec Farm Forum Association urge the Government of Canada to give still greater support and leadership to F.A.O. That a joint committee of the Q.F.F.A., Q.W.I., and Macdonald College consider the needs for and problems involved in further extending agricultural education in the secondary schools of the province. This committee has been authorized to take whatever action it deems necessary to fulfill its aims.

The successful Tri-County Leadership Forum recently held at Compton was fully discussed and plans drawn up for others of its kind to be held in other parts of the province.

The Council members supported by the guests drafted a policy for the Canadian Federation of Agriculture regarding price supports and the disposal of surplus commodities.

businessman who didn't have time to attend meetings called to deal with his business?

If it had not been for a Farm Forum group in Annapolis County, Nova Scotia, who began delving into the mysteries of tariffs etc., Canadian farmers would undoubtedly still be paying 20 per cent duty plus 10 per



Everyone shared the chores at the Tri-County Leadership Forum.

cent sales tax on tractor tires purchased to replace old worn tires. It all started at a group meeting when one of the Forum members asked why replacement tires made in U.S.A. for agricultural use were subject to duty plus sales tax, while new tractors, equipped with tires, came in like other farm machinery, duty free and without sales tax.

Nobody knew the answer so the question was referred to the County, Provincial, Maritime farm organizations, and finally to the Canadian Federation of Agriculture at Ottawa, who later referred it to the Federal Government, with the request that an adjustment be made. In due course, the fairness of the request was recognized, and the 20 per cent duty and 10 per cent sales tax were removed.

Yes, it was fortunate for all the tractor farmers in Canada that people in this little Forum in the Annapolis Valley took time out to attend their meeting. The money saved on this one item would pay a lot of membership dues.

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#### Butter Gains Consumer Preference:

Creamery butter consumption in Canada during the first eight months of this year was higher than in any corresponding period since the pre-margarine year of 1948. Canadians are increasing their butter purchases by about a million pounds per month over last year. In contrast, margarine sales during the first two-thirds of this year were 2 million pounds less than during the same period a year earlier.

## The Dairy Industry in New Zealand . . .

**D**AIRYING is second only to sheep farming in economic importance in New Zealand, and the net returns from dairying are higher than would be obtained from any other type of livestock farming. Dairying is mainly undertaken for the production of butter and cheese, but increasing quantities of processed milk are being manufactured and the production of casein is higher now than it was before the war, reports R. W. Blake, Agricultural Secretary, Department of Trade and Commerce, Melbourne, Australia.

Whole milk production has risen during the past few years because of good seasons and of more cows being in milk.

Dairying in New Zealand has many advantages which enable production to be carried on at probably the lowest cost level in the world. The temperate climate, eliminating

the need for buildings, and making it possible for an almost continuous growth of pasture throughout the year, as well as the highly mechanized nature of the



The dairy cow helps support the New Zealand economy too.

dairy farms and factories—these are the principal features contributing to the success of the industry. Pastures, once established are more or less permanent, requiring only occasional harrowing and top-dressing with fertilizers. Nevertheless, the land is lacking in phosphorous and annual top-dressing with superphosphate is necessary.

Serious production losses have occurred in the past due to dry seasons, but improved farm management practices should reduce these losses in future droughts. Improved pastures and greater conservation of feed supplies by silage-making and rationed grazing are proving effective as a means of reducing production losses. The use of penicillin for mastitis, and vaccination against contagious abortion are factors contributing to increased production.

The importance of the dairy industry to the economy of New Zealand is such that it has become a highly specialized undertaking from the farm to the marketing of the produce. Total production has risen in recent years and more by-products, such as casein and dried milk powder, are being manufactured. This has caused more butterfat to be used for butter-making with less going into cheese manufacture. How far this trend will go depends on the relative prices for butter and cheese. Cheese prices are brought more into line with butter

prices and will no doubt help correct the trend away from cheese production.

The industry is particularly stable at the present time and it has a large stabilization account which can be used to cushion the effects of any fall in prices which may occur. Further additions to this fund are not being made; the farmers and dairy factories (all of which are co-operatives) are receiving the full proceeds from the sale of dairy products after administration costs have been deducted.

It is difficult to see how any further reduction in costs of production can be achieved through increased mechanization either on the farm or at the factory, but improvements in the yield per cow are still possible and are being tackled through herd testing, pasture improvement and management and fodder conservation.

The dairy industry in New Zealand is wholly dependent on the United Kingdom market for the disposal of nearly all its products, the quantities going to outside markets being only a small percentage of the total.

With its high output per unit of labour giving low cost production, New Zealand is favourably placed to meet world competition for marketing her dairy products.

## The Shepherd's Calendar

by W. H. Hough and S. B. Williams

**T**AKE the ram out of the ewe flock and do not allow him to run with the ewes until the next mating season. On a ration of good quality legume hay or fair quality hay plus  $\frac{1}{2}$  pound of grain per day, the ram should winter very well.

Exercise is necessary to his good health.

Be careful not to get chaff and seeds into the fleeces when feeding and bedding the flock. A properly constructed feeding rack will aid in this respect, as will the exclusion of the sheep from the pen while bedding. Chaffy and seedy fleeces are of lower grade and hence of less value.

Use sufficient bedding to keep all parts of the pens dry, especially around the wathering troughs and near open doors.

Have a system of marking or identifying the individual sheep through the use of metal ear tags or tattoos. An example of such would be a tag marked "C 10A" where "C" would represent either the breed of the lamb or the sire of the lamb, if only one breed is kept. The "A" would represent the year of birth and the "10" would indicate that the lamb was the tenth one born that year. The next year the "A" would be replaced by a "B" to show that a "B" lamb would be one year younger than an "A" lamb. January is a good time to set up such a system, to decide on the number and kinds of tags needed, and to order them.

This is the last monthly outline on sheep management.



Use sufficient bedding.

We hope you have enjoyed it, and more important found it useful to you in your work. There is one final remark the authors have to say regarding this subject, and it is

that the variations in climate across Canada for any given month of the year make it difficult to recommend definite dates for operations such as time of lambing, or date of shearing. They suggest, however, that the sequence of practices and operations remains unaltered.

The number of breeds of sheep in Canada is quite large, but excepting the fact that some breeds have excessive face cover which necessitates periodic trimming about the eyes, there are few, if any, differences in management practices between breeds.

If you liked the monthly outlines plus the illustrative cartoons, let us know. Drop a line to Box 260, Macdonald College.

## Good News Dept.

According to the latest statistics, butter is gaining back some of the ground it lost to margarine while, in addition, sales of skim milk powder are holding up well over the 1952 level. This is good news to the farmer.

### Butter Supply At Highest Level:

Stocks of creamery butter in Canada on September 1st this year were at the all-time high level of 90 million pounds. This is the largest butter stock recorded for any month in history and is accounted for by a sharp increase in production. From January to August, production was 21 million pounds or 11 per cent over that of a year ago.

## Comment On The January Program

by Colin Muirhead

THE program for 1954 starts off by discussing farm organization. What's the Ideal Farm Organization? We feel that the ideal is unattainable so let's keep our discussion down to the attainable. What sort of farm organization would you like? The farm organization you've got now is pretty good, but everything human can be improved upon. What would you like to see in a farm organization? There are plenty of points you could list.

We'd say that if a farm organization is going to do the job it was set up for, it needs to attract the young farm element; it needs to see that the more capable move upward through the organization to the higher offices and that their stay in these offices should be limited to, let us say, a two year term.

The Ontario Federation of Agriculture, for instance, adopts this technique as also does the Quebec Farm Forum, although in the latter case it is a matter of agreement for there is no limiting factor in the constitution. This method gives all members a chance of showing their worth while at the same time making full use of the talents of the retiring president who automatically fills the position of past-president.

The Ontario Federation has a secretary-manager who is a paid employee of the Organization. It is his job to carry on the business of the Federation, to carry out the policy decisions of the executive and to advise and consult with that body. Of course, with a larger body this position of secretary-manager would have to be split as the load would be too heavy.

When we get down to the County level, are chairmen and other executive members rotated or not? It might be good for us to do a little stock taking on this point and find out.

Our farm organization would need a continuing stream of facts. We can't oppose margarine by saying that it sounds the death knell of every cow in Canada. We need to present reasoned arguments on the subject, not flights

of oratory. Are people leaving the farms of Canada for the bright lights of the city? If so who is going, the best farmers or the worst? Will this movement better agriculture's position or not? We need to know the facts before we speak.

Our farm organization would be directly concerned with the broadcast of January 11th on the farm price trend, and this isn't just a national problem, it's a provincial and county problem too. It's vital to bolstering farm purchasing power. What would help agriculture best? Acreage controls with parity pricing? Forward prices? Consumption subsidies such as more school lunches, or methods to increase purchasing power in the low income groups? It's impossible to cover all the factors in one broadcast, but it can go a long way toward setting up some good discussion for later periods with action to follow.

*(continued from page 3)*

won't split should water freeze in it during a cold snap. The pipe just stretches, then comes back to its original size when the ice thaws.

More than a million pounds of polythene piping were made in Canada last year, and it is likely that three times as much will be made next year. The raw material from which the pipe is made is polythene resin, and this will be manufactured in Canada for the first time when the new C.I.L. plant at Edmonton comes into production. The polythene will be made from ethylene derived from Alberta natural gas.

Fire insurance companies list the following as frequent causes of farm fires chimneys of sub-standard construction; sparks from dirty chimneys; faulty smoke-pipes and stove installations; seasonal grass and bush fires; spontaneous ignition of hay; worn-out shingle roofs; lighted lanterns; mis-use of electrical equipment; threshing and other operations with gasoline powered engines; matches or smoking in barns and other farm buildings; lightning.

## Citizens' Forum — Your Discussion Platform

Citizens' Forum is a discussion of controversial issues that starts around the microphone and continues in homes across the country. Neighbours meet together every Thursday evening to discuss the broadcast topic. Study pamphlets on each broadcast are distributed to Forum members a week ahead.

Topics for the 1953-54 season are given below. Should you wish to join a group, start a new Citizens' Forum, or receive background reading material, send your name to the Information Centre, Box 237, Macdonald College.

### Citizens' Forum Topics, 1953-54 NEW YEAR ASSESSMENT

- Jan. 7 WHAT DO WE WANT FROM CANADIAN TELEVISION?
- 14 SHOULD YOUTH BE MORE ADVENTUROUS?
- 21 IS THE WHITE COLLAR WORKER THE FORGOTTEN MAN?
- 28 IN THE NEWS: Forum on an important current issue.

### LOOKING ABROAD

- Feb. 4 OUR AID TO UNDERDEVELOPED COUNTRIES.
- 11 LOOK HERE, NEIGHBOUR!
- 18 "TRADE, NOT AID".
- 25 IN THE NEWS: Forum on an important current issue.

### DO CANADIANS AGREE?

- Mar. 4 WHAT HEALTH PLANS FOR CANADA?
- 11 CAN WE GIVE EVERY CANADIAN CHILD AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IN EDUCATION?
- 18 SHOULD LABOR HAVE THE RIGHT TO STRIKE IN PUBLIC SERVICES?
- 25 IN THE NEWS: Forum on an important current issue.
- Apr. 1 WHAT PEOPLE SAY: A report on forum opinion across the nation (half-hour broadcast.)

"JOE BEAVER"

By Ed Nofziger



Forest Service, U. S. Department of Agriculture

"As well as protecting our liberties, we ought to protect our renewable resources before we get to the bottom of the barrel!"



A cucumber picker on the farm of George Eaton, Centreville, N.S. It's designed to overcome the high cost of picking cukes. Eight men can pick from the wing on which we see two men; they lay the cukes on the belt ahead of them and they are carried to the center, up the ramp and drop into bags. It solves the labor problem too.

### Check The Fire Hazards

With winter here it is a good time to give some extra thought to fire protection. Furnaces are fire hazards unless they are good working order. Among the most common causes of fire in rural Canadian homes are those originating from heating and cooking equipment. Fire insurance companies list the following as frequent causes of farm fires: chimneys of sub-standard construction; sparks from dirty chimneys; faulty smoke-pipes and stove installations; seasonal grass and bush fires; spontaneous ignition of hay; worn-out shingle roofs; lighted lanterns; mis-use of electrical equipment; threshing and other operations with gasoline powered engines; matches or smoking in barns and other farm buildings; lightning.

Most fires originating from this list could be prevented by checking on faulty construction or equipment, for the time to prevent a fire is before it starts. Chimneys and smoke pipes can be inspected, gasoline can be stored away from main buildings, oily rags never left lying about. Even lightning can be guarded against with arresters.

An excellent fire prevention on a farm is a roof ladder. Keep a few buckets of water ready for use and a number of water barrels at suitable points is an added precaution. But they are worse than useless if the water is frozen solid should a sudden emergency arise, so choose a relatively warm place.

A reliable fire extinguisher is a good investment, particularly if equipped to handle gasoline fires. It will often be enough to scotch and incipient fire and prevent disaster.

When out in the country, hiking or hunting, a piece of strong household soap should be included in the pack, to be used in case of contact with poison ivy, poison oak or poison sumach. By scrubbing the skin as soon as possible with a heavy lather, it is possible to wash away the oil exuded from the plant.

## Keep It Lean

A CONSIDERABLE number of people in the swine industry, associated with production, grading and marketing of Canadian hogs, regard as serious the continued decline in hog quality and the ever-increasing trend toward the production of lard-type rather than meat-type animals.

These views are not shared by all producers, many of whom claim that because Canada has lost the British market for bacon the incentive has been lost for the production of bacon-type hogs, formerly processed as "Wiltshire" sides.

Those who favour the meat-type hog say that no matter where pork markets are found, present or future, domestic, United States or Great Britain, the production of an excess of lard is a wasteful practice for all concerned and brings overall lower returns to the producer.

A leading publication in the meat packing and allied industries in the United States "The National Provisioner", in an article appearing in the August issue says:

"The growing trend toward the meat-type hog has been enhanced by two developments. First, the fat situation has caused the cost of fats to fall far below the price of meat. Secondly, the findings of colleges and experimental stations indicate that the meat-type hog can be produced as efficiently, economically, and productively as other types.

"Many of the nation's swine experts are strongly urging producers gradually to switch their breeding to the more desirable meat-type hog. It has been proved that these types of lean hogs can be produced and finished properly for market from any of the major hog breeds and from cross-breeding through proper selection of the desired characteristics. It also has been proved that meat-type hogs can be produced as economically as any other type of hogs.

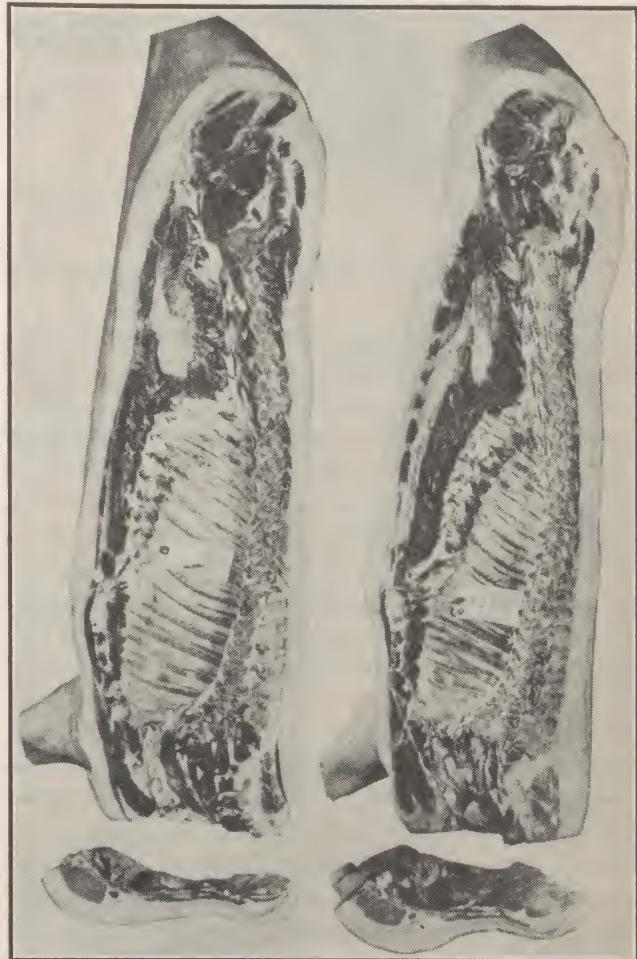
"An Institute member company recently made comparisons of meat-type hogs as compared with the regular-run hogs which showed that the percentage of principal lean cuts—hams, loins, picnics, and butts—amounted to 33.93 per cent of the total in the case of the meat-type hogs while the regular-run hogs yielded only 31.92 per cent of the total. It is believed that this comparison would

### 8 Hour Day for Farm Labor

An eight hour work day has become a general rule for farm workers on farms in Northern Europe, according to a report by the Scandinavian Secretariat for Workers in Agriculture and Horticulture.

The report says workers in Sweden have had an eight hour day average since 1930, and in the past few years farm labor in Finland and Norway have generally obtained an eight hour day. In Denmark, workers now have an average eight and two thirds hour work day.

In terms of real wages, Norwegian farm workers have



have been even more striking if a group of "over-fat" hogs had been included in the tests.

"Another reason which concerns the producer, packer and retailer, alike, for leaning toward the meat-type hog is 'Mrs. Housewife'. They realize that she is still the 'boss' when it comes to deciding what will go into her market basket. She is demanding leaner and leaner pork with every passing day and many fear that if she isn't supplied with that lean pork that the time will come, and it may not be too far off, when she will pass up pork for something else."

improved their lot more than those in the other three countries. In Norway real wages have doubled since 1938. With 1938 as 100, the farm wages in other countries are: Finland 169; Sweden 151; and Denmark 141.

In Norway and Denmark agricultural workers receive three weeks' annual holiday with pay and six and a half percent of wages as a holiday allowance. Swedish farm workers also have three weeks' holiday with pay but only a six percent allowance. In Finland, workers receive 12 days' annual holiday with pay, rising to 18 days after five years service with the same employer, and the holiday allowance is at a lower percentage.



## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

*Activities, Plans and Policies of the Quebec Department of Agriculture*

### The Federal-Provincial Outlook Conference

INDICATIONS are that there will be no serious interruptions in 1954 from the generally prosperous conditions of last year. This opinion was expressed by federal government agricultural leaders at the annual federal-provincial agricultural conference held in Ottawa during the last week of November.

All-inclusive reports were presented by federal government leaders covering all phases of agriculture with some mention of urban rural problems. These excellent reports, into which had gone a lot of work and effort by the economics branch of the agriculture department, called forth little discussion.

The Quebec delegation was headed by Rene Trepanier, Deputy Minister of Agriculture. Also attending from Quebec was Mr. Marion, vice-president of the Canadian Federation of Agriculture. Mr. Marion spoke for all farmers when he said that the reduction in take-home pay in agriculture, which had shown a further reduction over the preceding year, was causing great concern and uneasiness among farmers all over Canada. "Farmers are paying more," he said, "and receiving less, yet," he went on, "the city man pays almost as much for his beef when steers are around 18¢ per pound as when I was getting 34¢ per pound for mine. It doesn't make sense," he said.

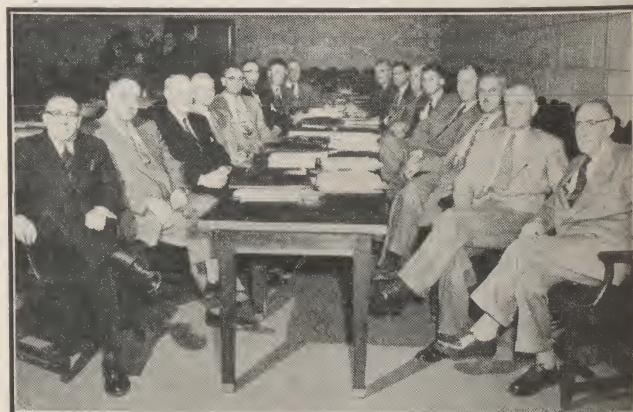
Regarding hogs, Mr. Marion said that farmers follow a cycle of ups and downs with dreary monotony. "Anybody can get into hog production," he told the conference, "doctors, dentists, lawyers and anybody else who has a little money to invest can jump on the band-wagon when hog prices are moving up, but let the bottom go out," he said, "and these amateurs shy away leaving the ordinary dirt farmer to face the music, and it usually ends up with the Minister of Agriculture coming to our rescue." Something is very wrong Mr. Marion thought when this sort of thing can happen. "But just let us try and practise a profession," he concluded, "and we'd be up against the tightest closed shop in the world."

Dr. Darke, the United Kingdom Agricultural attaché at Ottawa said that the United Kingdom farmers had greatly expanded production, so that they now fed approximately 50 percent of the population as against 34 percent in pre-war years. "This 50 percent is an average figure," he explained, "we are self-sufficient in

some products while producing almost nil of others. For instance," he went on, "we produce 52 percent of our own carcass meat and 45 percent of our bacon on the basis of the old ration. You can see from these figures that there is still a large and increasing market for meat in the United Kingdom, and that market can be filled by Canada," he told the assembled delegates, "as readily as by any other nation, if you are willing to go after it."

Mr. Shaw, Prince Edward Island's Deputy Minister of Agriculture strongly urged that steps be taken to re-establish Canada in the United Kingdom market. "It's a logical market for Canadian farm produce, and we've let it go by default," he said. He also told the delegates that the farmers need to do a better job of public relations. "Every time food prices go up in the retail stores," he concluded, "the farmer gets the blame."

Mr. Gardiner, Federal Minister of Agriculture, in his closing remarks stressed the fact that while Canadian farmers had suffered a second reduction in net farm income they are still better off than in 1949 and 1950. "Everybody compares present day farm income with 1951," he said, "and I don't think that 1951 can be taken as an average year for during that period farm income hit an all-time high." Taking 1949 net farm income as equal to 100, Mr. Gardiner then showed how in 1950 the net income equalled 88, in 1951 it reached 133, dropping to 119 in 1952 and to 105 in 1953. "But,"



Official delegation, Canadian Federation of Agriculture, at the Federal-Provincial Agricultural Conference. At extreme left, Dr. H. H. Hannam, President, and at extreme right, J. A. Marion, Second Vice-President.

he said, "it's still above the 1949 level which was a good year for farm income. So what are we worrying about? Let's keep these income figures in perspective and quit worrying where our next dollar is coming from. We are not doing too badly right now."

"Farmers," the Minister went on, "can solve a lot of their own problems if they produce those things for which their farm is best suited and in as large a quantity as possible. No farm ever went broke because it produced too much" Mr. Gardiner said, "but I have heard of farmers who cut back on production having a tough time of it."

Speaking of the support program, the Minister said that it was geared to help the farmer over the rough spots. "Take butter, for instance," he said, "in Canada we just about produce enough to feed ourselves, but we get that production mainly in the summer while we do most of our eating in the winter; someone has to carry that surplus produce over and the government is taking a big share of that right now."

## Nicolet Farmers Discuss Hog Raising

Pierre Labrecque, Chief of the Livestock Service, Marc-Aurele Dionne of the same department and other members of the staff of the Department took part in a meeting of hog raisers at Nicolet last month, which was attended by over 400 persons. This was a study meeting organized by the Canadian Feed Manufacturers' Association with the cooperation of both Provincial and Federal Departments of Agriculture.

The morning was given over to a judging class on live hogs, which were then butchered so that a demonstration on carcass grading could be given in the afternoon, followed by a discussion period later.

Dr. Adrien Morin, one of the speakers, reported that it would appear that hog marketings in the coming nine months would be less than the demand for pork. The domestic market requires 100,000 hogs a month, and average production during the month of October was only 96,200. This led him to believe that prices would hold up well at least until next August. Since there is no market for our hogs in Great Britain, and since Western farmers have a large surplus of grain on their hands, it may be that there will be a spurt in hog raising in the West to help get rid of this grain as feed. Since this is a situation over which the Eastern farmers have no control, Mr. Moring suggested that our farmers do everything they can to raise their hogs at the least possible cost, by paying careful attention to the boars they use, and by careful feeding and management programmes.

Armand Desrosiers, Dr. Ernest Mercier, Armand Joubert and Napoleon Mercier also took part in the programme.

## Brome County Improves Its Farming

Following the lead given by farmers in Champlain County, farm leaders in Brome County set up a Farm Improvement Committee last summer, which organized a farm improvement competition in which 80 farm owners took part. Results of the contest were announced recently by Gustave Caron, county agronomist.

Mr. Caron reports great satisfaction with the improvements brought about during the past year. For instance, 675 acres have been brought into cultivation—land that had previously been scrub but which has been worked over and seeded down to pasture. In this work the Deslandes harrow, the new machine which has been giving good results in improving pastures in this district, was a factor that contributed to getting the work done well. New drainage ditches have been dug, and old ones cleaned out so that old, established fields produced more.

Ten of the farms originally entered in the contest were ruled out of the running because the owners had not complied with all the regulations, notably the one requiring the construction of a silo.

Clerence Allen of Foster scored 89 to lead the contest, but his lead was barely enough to give him first place, since Pierre Veillon, the Sweetsburg Jersey breeder, was close on his heels with 88½. Others scoring 85% or better were, in order of merit, Jos. Gaudreau of Brigham, C. G. Bradford, Foster, Robert Trusanski and Eric St. Francois of Abercorn, Ernest Bradley & Sons, Mansonville, G. C. Whitcher of Foster, Hormidas Coderre of Knowlton and Omer Paquette of Adamsville.

There were 30 contestants with scores of over 75%, 29 scoring between 60% and 75% and 11 between 54% and 59%. Items taken into account in the judging were drainage operations, proper conservation and use of farm manure, and proper use and conservation of forage crops.

Provincial analysts will examine 425 samples of soil taken during the summer from these farms, testing them for acidity and for possible phosphorus and potash deficiency.

## They Tried Hard At Toronto

Quebec junior judges didn't manage to take any national championships at the Royal this year, but our dairy cattle judging team of Rhoda Simon and Clifford Baxter finished just a hair's breadth behind the winning Ontario team, with the Manitoba team close on their heels. However, we are happy to report that Miss Simons, was the high individual scorer.

Only two teams were representing Quebec at this year's Royal. Ardyth Painter and Daryl Lowry of the Island Brook club placed third in judging beef cattle, the Alberta and Manitoba teams being first and second.

Reports from the returning contestants all prove that the 116 contestants, representing, for the first time, all 10 provinces, were given a wonderful time at Toronto.

They were guests of Imperial Oil at a performance of the Ice Capades, toured the Swift Canadian plant, went to Niagara Falls, visited the plants of International Harvester and Massey-Harris, were entertained at breakfasts, dinners and suppers, and climaxed their trip by a stop-off at Ottawa on the way home where they met Minister of Agriculture Gardiner and looked in on a session of Parliament.

Results of judging in the various competitions were:

*Dairy cattle:* Ontario, Quebec, Manitoba, British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island.

## Another Record

IT SEEKS to be getting to be a habit to report that the Agricultural Cooperative at Granby has again improved on its previous year's business. But the members learned when they came to the annual meeting on November 10 that 1953 had been another record-breaker, and that their co-operative had done a gross business amounting to \$5,790,105.26 during the year.

As president Omer Deslauriers pointed out in his annual report to the members, the Granby Co-operative was organized in 1938 with a total membership of 87. There are now 1142, but, he claimed, many of these are what might be called part-time co-operators. They deal with their co-operative when it seems to be profitable for themselves, but they do not throw their whole support to the organization. For example, of the 132,194,897 pounds of milk and 582,957 pounds of cream that were delivered to the plant during 1953, only one third of it came from members. A large volume of business is a necessity if manufacturing and handling costs are to be kept down, and it is up to every individual member to bring his business to the co-op to which he belongs.

During the year under review there was a net increase of only 11 in the membership; but there are prospects of an additional 200 members enrolling in the near future. Much of the credit for this increase can be laid to the work of the 135 "animateurs"; members of the co-op who have undertaken to give up some of their own time to visit their neighbours and encourage them to become members. Organized last year by secretary Sabourin, this group has done an excellent job, and the meeting was happy to endorse a vote of thanks to them.

### New Butter Plant Projected

The Dairy Division does by far the largest business in the co-op, and naturally enough came in for a lot of discussion. Manager Bonin pointed out that both Canada and the United States have surpluses of dairy products. Our American neighbours are perhaps in worse state than we are, and we may expect more competition from them should support for the dairy industry be withdrawn in the United States. Here in Canada the Federal Govern-

*Beef cattle:* Alberta, Manitoba, Quebec, Saskatchewan, Ontario, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, British Columbia.

*Swine:* Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario, British Columbia.

*Poultry:* Saskatchewan, New Brunswick, Alberta, British Columbia, Prince Edward Island.

*Grain:* Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, Ontario, New Brunswick.

*Garden:* New Brunswick, Manitoba, Alberta, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, Newfoundland.

*Potato:* British Columbia, Ontario, Nova Scotia.

## Year At Granby

ment has vast stocks of butter in storage, and some adjustment in support prices may be in the making here too. Forseeing a considerable increase in its butter business, and faced with the necessity of turning out butter for the lowest possible cost, the board of directors of the Granby Co-operative have decided to install the very latest in butter-making machinery. This "continuous process" plant will be the largest in Canada, with a capacity of 6000 pounds of wrapped prints an hour with only five operators running it. The interesting thing about the set-up is that it does away with that standard piece of equipment, the churn. The new system uses a super-separator which will deliver 98% test cream, which is practically liquid butter. This is easily converted into conventional butter, with an excellent texture, without any churning.

The Co-op made over four million pounds of butter last year, and about fourteen million pounds of the various kinds of powdered milk. With the expectation of considerably larger milk and cream shipments next year, and the necessity for turning out butter as cheaply as possible, this new process seemed a logical solution; it is expected that the increased volume will be taken care of with savings of at least 4¢ per pound.

The cost of butter making was reduced in 1953 with the old equipment, due largely to volume of milk received; 33,000,000 pounds extra made quite a difference in the overhead and similar charges. Shippers received \$3.18 a hundred on an average test of 3.58%; cream averaged 30.65% and was paid for at \$19.32 per 100 pounds.

Export markets still account for much of the sales in the dairy division, and Dominica and Mexico are the latest customers. Many sales outlets are opening up as a result of the manager's trip to South America last summer, which he reports was very successful.

### Divisional Business

Increases in the business of some divisions, notably dairy and hardware, were offset by declines in the volume of business of others; but almost every division, even if its total sales were smaller, operated at a profit. A large

decline was noted in the feeds division due to the lack of sales of hog feed.

Total sales by divisions were:

Dairy .....	\$4,922,125.89
Hatchery .....	43,227.07
Egg grading .....	60,843.02
Feeds .....	671,196.08
Hardware .....	82,467.70
Artificial breeding .....	10,245.50

Fertilizer sales were up and in future this department's sales to members will be made at cost plus transportation. One particularly gratifying sign was a substantial increase in the sales of seed; an indication that the members are becoming increasingly conscious of the necessity of using good seed. Sales of farm machinery have decreased all over Canada, but the Granby sales were about the same as last year. So were sales at the hatchery, and this year the hatchery operated at a profit. The only division which showed a loss on the year's operations was artificial insemination, which did a very small volume of business.

The egg grading station handled 121,800 dozen eggs,

paying .4314 for them and selling them for .4995. The hatchery incubated 233,204 eggs and 12,205 turkey eggs with a percentage hatch of 75.2% and 61.7% respectively. Hatching eggs were bought at 88¢ per dozen and turkey eggs for \$2.99. The granary received 232 carloads of grain and made it into 171,683 bags of feed, almost 40,000 bags less than last year.

There were over 800 members at the meeting, and they all paid careful attention to what was going on. Questions about this or that phase of the operations came from all parts of the hall as each speaker completed his report; questions that showed a lively interest in the affairs of the co-operative on the part of its members. In every case, very complete and satisfactory explanations were given to all questions, and it was obvious that the management has the complete confidence of the membership.

All the directors whose terms had expired were re-elected by acclamation, and the executive will again be Omer Deslauriers, president; I. Martin, vice-president and R. P. Sabourin, secretary. Jean Marie Bonin will continue as general manager.

## Montreal Central Market Is Assured

Work Started On North-End Project

THE Montreal Market Gardeners held their annual meeting in Montreal on November 23 and learned that the central market, which has been the subject of hope and expectation for the past fifty years, has reached the stage where engineers and architects are working on the plans.

President Moquin, at last year's meeting, had to fend off what at times was angry criticism from certain of the members, who were convinced that the City of Montreal would never get around to giving the association the land they had promised. But he was able to report this year that Montreal has given 130 acres of land north of Cremazie Boulevard, with easy access to both railway lines and to road transportation, on which the market will be built. It will not be a retail market, but will serve as a place where producers will have daily contact with the buyers from the large chain stores, wholesalers and jobbers.

No details of construction were given at the meeting, but the president promised that it would be the finest market on the continent when it is completed. It is expected that a scale model will be on display at the Salon of Agriculture next winter at the Show Mart.

Now that the land is assured, and the Quebec Government is still willing to help with the financing, members of the association are expected to do their share. Shares in the company which will build and operate the market are restricted to bona-fide market gardeners, and practically all of them have subscribed for shares. But, as president

Moquin made abundantly clear, there is a difference between subscribing for shares and paying for them. Many of the would-be shareholders have not yet made good on their undertaking to subscribe, but it is entirely likely that this situation will soon change; for the members were told that no space in the new market will be reserved for anyone who does not hold at least three of the new company's shares; and the stalls (which will be 20' in frontage as compared with the 7' now available at Bonsecours) will be allotted as nearly as possible in the same



President Moquin describes the trials and tribulations of those who are planning the new central market; Alderman Sevignac listens sympathetically.

order as the shares were bought. In other words, the man who bought shares at the beginning, thus proving his faith in the enterprise, would be entitled to preferred location over the one who had to be reminded two or three times that he had not yet paid for the shares for which he had subscribed. This point was made perfectly clear by Mr. Moquin, and apparently the members present at the meeting were in entire agreement with this arrangement.

Another strong supporter of the new market was Leopold Pigeon, who was representing the Montreal Retail Merchants' Association and who is a member of the City Council. He has been a strong advocate of the market at council meetings for a long time and has been in on the planning from the beginning. Buyers for the Montreal stores will be able to secure their stocks daily, and will have a greater freedom of choice in making their purchases when the new market is in operation; this will mean fresher produce for the consumer and probably lower prices, since handling costs should be considerably less in the new location, with all its up-to-date facilities.

### 1953 A Poor Year

Secretary Alphonse Couture's review of the general situation of market gardeners during the past year was a subdued one, and according to his figures, few members of the association operated at a profit. He went so far as to say that most operators, if they kept adequate records in which all their costs were recorded—labour, frames, greenhouses, depreciation on machinery and so forth—would have to report that they had lost money instead of being ahead. A man with anywhere from \$50,000 to \$75,000 invested in his buildings and equipment should be able to report a net profit of 4% or 5% on his investment, or from \$1500 to \$4000 per year; and this after making allowance for all his costs, including reserves for depreciation and an adequate salary for himself. This figure, he thought, is a very modest one, considering the risks inherent in such a business, where the operator is almost entirely at the mercy of the weather. He urged all gardeners to keep proper books so that they could determine if any of their crops were being grown at a loss.

National Salad Week, sponsored in Quebec by the Association of Market Gardeners, had been a real success and splendid co-operation from the Information and Research Service of the Department of Agriculture in sending out publicity to the newspapers and radio stations had been a great factor in publicizing the event. Mayor Houde had issued a proclamation on the subject, and the Association's members had contributed a selection of vegetables which had been made up into baskets by the Horticulture Service and distributed to members of the City Council. Excellent co-operation was received from the storekeepers in Montreal, and the result was that the buying public was made aware of the splendid quality of Quebec vegetables.

### Pre-packaging An Issue

Mr. Jules Lamontagne, fruit and vegetable buyer for Dominion Stores, had been invited to talk about pre-packaging, but as he was unable to be present, Miss Henriette Rouleau of the Consumers' Section, Marketing Division, Federal Department of Agriculture filled in for him in her own inimitable fashion. She reported that she had spent several week-ends last summer working as a clerk in various chain stores, to see for herself just what the buying habits of the public are, and she is convinced that the transparent bag of vegetables is growing in popularity with the housewife. But she thought that buyers want the weight of the contents plainly marked on the bag, and felt that, if possible, all products should be sold in bags of equal weight. Miss Rouleau's contribution was more in the style of a forum discussion, and there was excellent participation from all parts of the hall; but none of the questions could stump Miss Rouleau, who has a definite knack for keeping things under control.

Henri Dubord, economist in the Department of Agriculture, discussed the price of vegetables in relation to the general price level, and concluded that vegetable growing is a business plagued by wide fluctuations in returns. In general, it would appear that returns to market gardeners have not kept pace with returns to other classes of labour.

Leopold Bourque, the technical adviser to the association, summarized the history of the group, which was first formed in 1948. Much of his talk had to do with the market, and the absolute necessity for every member to subscribe to the cost of it in order to make it and keep it an enterprise that would be the property of and under the control of the members of the association.

### Resolutions

As is customary at many meetings, a number of resolutions had been prepared by the board of directors and these were submitted to the general meeting for approval. One was a resolution of thanks to Minister of Agriculture Barré for his help and encouragement in connection with getting the market underway, and for the help that was always forthcoming from the members of his staff in the Department of Agriculture. Creation of a Provincial Marketing Board which would, among other things, see to it that the canning plants made firm contracts with growers at the start of the season, was again suggested. A resolution was passed urging that the weight of the contents, and the place of origin, be stamped on all transparent containers. Finally, since the Provincial Government has ear-marked \$1,000,000 for the new market, and the City of Montreal has contributed the necessary land, it was suggested that the Federal Government be invited to assist also. Finally, a formal resolution addressed to the City of Montreal, expressing thanks for the land grant, was adopted.

All officers and directors were re-elected for another term.

**EVERYTHING**  
your cows need for  
top milk-production!

**"MIRACLE"**  
**DAIRY FEEDS**

142-52

### Using Brome Grass

There are many satisfied growers of Brome grass in Eastern Canada now, and it seems that this grass may become more and more popular once the methods of growing it are better understood.

Under good moisture conditions, Brome grass will not replace timothy; but in areas where sandy, open soils result in low moisture conditions, Brome and alfalfa mixtures give promising results.

Many farmers have found difficulty in getting Brome grass established; and in most cases this can be traced to the fact that the seed was sown too deep. Brome grass must be sown shallow—from  $\frac{1}{2}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch, and burying the seed deeply in most soils results in a poor, uneven stand. Careful and thorough soil preparation, combined with rolling or packing before seeding, will insure planting at the proper depth. Good results are obtained by mixing the

Brome seed with the grain in the grain box of the seed drill.

A rate of seeding of from 8 to 12 pounds per acre is recommended in combination with alfalfa. A lower rate may be used in more complex mixtures which include other grasses.

Brome grass is winter hardy, starts early in the spring and heads out in the middle of June. Even though the heads turn brown, the leaves stay green and are relished by livestock; most grasses become woody and unpalatable as they ripen. Brome has a comparatively deep root system and a natural resistance to drought, so it provides an excellent after-grass in July and August, when many grasses fail to produce herbage.

## Information Please! ★ ★ ★

**This section should make interesting reading, for it is given over to the problems of our readers. Problems sent in by Farm Forum and other groups are dealt with here.**

**M**ORE and more farmers are using artificial insemination units rather than keep a bull of their own. The recent announcement from Cambridge, England, that a satisfactory method of storing semen and retaining its usability for as long a period as eight months should come as one of the more important steps in recent agricultural progress.

The practice of artificial insemination will produce good results, with ordinarily good bulls on mediocre herds of cows, but the sustained production in high average producing herds can only be maintained by careful selection of sires and the rigid adherence to a constructive breeding plan through successive generations. It is possible by judicious sire selections to apply what a good breeder knows and applies in his own herd, to the herd in a whole neighbourhood.

The difficulty in doing this through artificial insemination units in the past, has been the impossibility of maintaining a readily available supply of semen from particular bulls whenever it was needed. The new method of storing as announced by Cambridge, if found practical, will go a long way to solve this problem, and it will be possible for breeders with an eye to constructive breeding to build excellent herds of high producing females.

A number of breeding units have now been in operation ten years or more and it is possible to see the results of sound selection of successive sires. Other units where sire selection has not been so good, show varied results

with unevenness of type and production. Some herds will have a dozen animals by as many different sires; good enough sires as individuals but not selected on any breeding plan. The result has been that the hard meticulous work of breeders producing such sires is lost by faulty management of the breeding plan at the unit itself. A good many of these indifferent results have come about by the selection of sires on records only, without due attention to the pedigree background.

The ability, almost genius of some of the older and better known cattle breeders to select successive sires, suitable for their herds, was almost uncanny. This is the type of knowledge necessary, combined with the technical skill now available, to enable the practice of artificial insemination to produce a great number of superior cattle. The next ten years should see very important steps towards getting a greatly increased production from fewer dairy cows.

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ST. THOMAS, ONT.

## Removing Silage

Daily removal of silage from vertical silos requires frequent trips between silo and barn and much time can be wasted. The greatest saving can be made if the silo is located close to the barn.

When removing silage by hand, or by tractor fork, the silo is opened at one end and dug out in a vertical section two to three feet wide. The top cover and any spoiled or frozen material is first forked off over the section. By cutting layers to a depth of 6 to 8 inches the silage can be removed more readily. A good type of cutter is an oval shaped blade made from a plow coulter welded to a  $\frac{3}{4}$ -inch pipe with a foot rest and handle. This foot-operated cutter has been found to be easier to use than the axe type chopper.

For removing larger quantities of silage, a tractor fork can be used to good advantage, carrying individual loads to the barn or loading material on to a wagon. Another means of removing silage to the barn is by means of a litter carrier and truck. This does away with the use of horses or a tractor and does not require a road to be kept open in the winter.

Where a loose housing system is

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being used a self-feeder at the silo may prove efficient. A movable self-feeder rack, with a horizontal framework and vertical boards spaced 12 to 16 inches apart, is hung by chains from a 4-inch pipe or wooden pole. This feeder is moved ahead as the cattle eat into the silage and saves much hard labour.

### A Help In Figuring Costs

It's always hard to calculate the cost of producing milk and butterfat because there are so many factors that should be taken into consideration. Feed cost is influenced by many things; the kind and quality of roughage must be considered; so must the length of pasture season, herd management, inherited milking ability and so forth.

The Experimental Farm at Kapsuskaing has been keeping records over the last nineteen years, and have come up with some basic facts which can be used as a foundation in cost studies by anyone. It is found that a cow with an average production of 7,870 pounds of milk used in one year, on the average, 4,113 pounds of hay, 5,391 pounds of

silage, roots and green feed, and 2,890 pounds of concentrates. Pasture season was 118 days. It took 52 pounds of hay, 69 pounds of succulent feed, 36 pounds of concentrates and 1½ days on pasture to produce 100 pounds of milk. The individual farmer can get some idea of his own feed costs for milk and fat production by applying local prices, and his own milk production records, to these basic figures.

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## THE WOMEN'S INSTITUTES SECTION

*Devoted to the activities of the Quebec Institutes  
and to matters of interest to them*

# Have You A Hobby?

by Margaret Smallwood

ONE important aim of the Women's Institutes is the education of the community in those aspects of day to day living which will help them contribute to the development and stability of their society. Hobbies, ranging from bug collecting to fine arts, are an important part of achieving this aim.

A well chosen and diligently followed hobby will provide those outlets which people need to relax mind and body, thus assisting in a sense of well-being and improving their ability to co-operate with others. Just as in everything else, there are rights and wrongs in selecting a suitable diversion of this sort.

### How to Choose

People doing mental work such as accounting, stenography, should select a hobby which puts their hands and eyes to work. Weaving, pottery, or woodwork, are excellent here. Those engaged in more strenuous physical work would find a hobby such as the study of music or a foreign language more restful—only however, if they have some sort of aptitude along that line. It is not recommended that a person with no sense of design, colour, or drawing ability should take up painting since the resulting frustration would be in no way creative. A person of that sort should probably take up gardening or perhaps music.

Most universal of the hobbies is music, and by that is meant not only an appreciation but actually attempting to play well on some instrument be it piano, flute or bagpipes.

Reading as such, can hardly be called a hobby, but the collecting of books, or the studying of one particular topic will qualify.

### The Next Step

Having selected a hobby which seems to merge with your aptitudes and interests, the next step is a preliminary stage of familiarization during which your interest is built up to the point where the selected diversion is psychologically powerful enough to take the mind from other work and care.

One of the best ways to handle this is to get books from libraries on your hobby, making lists of the equipment you would like to get, and even defining objectives. Women's and community groups do much in this way by making available books and pamphlets to the community.

Another good step towards familiarization is to seek out and join, if possible, hobby groups which recently, thanks to long range social planning, have been increasing in number. The advantages of such groups are obviously the additional outlet of social contact, and the emphasizing of co-operative work plus that of pooled resources for the purchasing of hobby equipment.

### Results

There are numerous interesting and profitable hobbies to keep a person from getting bored; the tastes and circumstances of the individual will determine the choice. As well as widening one's outlook, affording rest and change from routine work, a hobby is sometimes a profitable thing. However, if it costs a little money instead of bringing in cash, a hobby is still valuable for the contentment it brings. Too, most hobbies bring pleasure to others besides the enthusiast.

There is hardly any situation where a hobby of some kind is not possible. Even if so rushed for time that you cannot pause in your chores, you can still put in a bit of practice at singing, square dance calling, or just plain thinking of the newest development in your hobby, as you sweep the barn floor.

### New Year's Message from the President

"This is my song, O God of all the nations  
This is my home, the country where my heart is,  
Here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine;  
But other hearts in other lands are beating  
With hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.  
O hear my song, O God of all the nations,  
A song of peace for their land and for mine.  
Dear Friends:

A year of wonderful experiences is behind us. The year of 1954 stretches ahead. With the "Song of Peace" in our hearts may we travel it together, without too many rocks and ruts; sure and steadfast, come what may. "Look up and laugh, and love, and live".

GRACE LEBARON.

## The Month With The W.I.

November meetings are reported here. That means Remembrance Day was much in the thoughts of all members. Attendance at services, laying of wreaths at the various community cenotaphs, and the sale of poppies are noted constantly. One branch furnished a poppy for each school child. Veterans still in hospital were not forgotten either. Food, (one branch sent baskets of apples) magazine subscriptions, small gifts, are all reported sent to the various military hospitals, a remembrance for the living heroes.

Preliminary plans for the customary Christmas projects are touched upon in these reports, and four branches had already sent away their Christmas box to English "links".

**Argenteuil:** Brownsburg had as special guest, Rev. W. H. Reid, who gave an illustrated travelogue on the Maritime provinces and the Gaspé peninsula. The Agriculture convenor, Mrs. Zimmer, read a paper on "The Varieties of Potatoes", and the annual donation of books to the value of \$10 was made to the school library. *Frontier* had a talk by Mr. C. Egerton, Dominion Food Supply Superintendent for International Paper Co., telling of the food values of different cuts of meat. *Jerusalem-Bethany* members visited the office of "The Lachute Watchman". *Lachute* had a visit from Mrs. G. Cooke, county president and Mrs. S. Sosnowski, a new Canadian from Poland, gave a talk on her home life in that country and Russia. *Lakefield* had a report of the military whist and sent a plant to a member. *Pioneer* had a talk by Mr. Robert Giles on his recent tour of England, France, Belgium and Holland. The sum of \$10 was voted the county fund. *Upper Lachute & East End* held a short business meeting, followed by a largely attended card party.

**Bonaventure:** The county semi-annual was held in Shigawake on UN Day. The president, Mrs. J. Campbell, referred to this and spoke briefly on the UN and its accomplishments since its setting up in 1945. The county scholarships of \$50 each were awarded to Hector Arse-

nault, now studying at Rimouski, and to Milne McNair, now enrolled in Sir George Williams. Mrs. H. Ward gave an account of personal contacts made with overseas delegates at the ACWW Conference and Miss McOuat gave a vivid description of Canada Day. *Black Cape* welcomed a new member and reported \$40 cleared on the supper. Mrs. Charles Fairservice read a paper on "Citizenship". Marcil heard a report on the progress of the proposed cairn at Port Daniel, given by the Citizenship convenor. *New Richmond* gave prizes to school children exhibiting calves at the Agricultural Fair and annual prize day was held in the School with more than 40 prizes distributed. Films were shown on life in Newfoundland and Home Week in P.E.I. Parents and teachers were entertained in the school and the program featured the film "Royal Journey" and a talk by Rev. Mr. Ashell on "Value of Vocational Training in Schools". The Citizenship convenor, Mrs. Orville McColm, read a paper on "United Nations". *Port Daniel* held a discussion on famous people who have worked for peace and the Citizenship convenor, Mrs. L. Sweetman, introduced the guest speaker, Rev. K. Fenton, New Carlisle, who gave a talk on "The Bill of Rights", which was followed by a group discussion. *Restigouche* reported a well-attended meeting. *Shigawage* heard an article on the ACWW read by the Citizenship convenor. A donation of \$5 was voted the Salvation Army. *Port Daniel-Shigawake Juniors* report that four more members have passed their knitting tests, three more received their sweaters and two their pins. Favours were made at the meeting.

**Brome:** *Abercorn* held a School Fair. Mrs. Booth read a paper on "Education" and a talk "Some Events of World II and After" was given by Mrs. G. F. W. Kuhring. A paper, "The President's Duties", was read by Mrs. Loren Sherrer and a special prize, donated by her, was won by a visitor from Ottawa. *South Bolton* has bought a school house for a club room. A quilt was tied at the meeting and a rummage sale brought \$45.53. *South Bolton Juniors* are holding meetings every two weeks and had a successful party. Sutton entertained the



Mrs. Watten of the Bury Branch planned and worked out this project—Bury Cemetery Rock Garden. She was presented with a life membership for her continued interest in this project, a memorial to Institute members who have "passed on".



Several of the members at Open House with Mrs. D. L. Wishart, Senneville (Ste. Anne's Branch).

semi-annual. Prizes were given for the best gardens made by the children of the community.

**Chat-Huntingdon:** Aubrey-Riverfield displayed exhibits from different countries. Quilt blocks were handed in for a social service meeting and Mrs. Gordon Harris read a paper, "What Makes A Good Citizen". Dundee heard an article "A Farm Woman Looks At The World", read by Mrs. Lester Fraser, and a picture contest was won by Mrs. R. McNicol. A five-day sewing class is being conducted by Miss Campbell. Franklin Centre entertained the husbands at a supper followed by a card party and social evening, an annual event. Hemmingford had as guest speaker, Mrs. G. D. Harvey, Q.W.I. 1st vice-president, who gave a talk on the ACWW Conference. Some members from Franklin were present. Mrs. Harold Palmer's report on the Radio Listening Group was considered one of the best of the year. Dishes, 98 dollar's worth, have been given to the school and \$72.50 to the Barrie Memorial Hospital. Howick had articles on "Citizenship", by Mrs. Fletcher; "The Poppy and Remembrance Day", by Mrs. L. West, and "A Tribute to the Late Mrs. Morton", by Mrs. J. D. Lang. Mrs. W. McGerrigle, Ormstown, assisted by Mrs. Eliot, demonstrated icing a bride's cake. Huntingdon is making a survey of the district in the interest of cerebral palsy sufferers. The staff of Huntingdon High School was entertained when Dr. H. Cook, principal, gave a talk on "The Modern Trend in Teaching Citizenship". Ormstown heard Mr. S. Gaga, of the High School, on the subject "What Would We Do in the Event of Another War?"

**Compton:** Bury Juniors have ordered membership pins. Knitting and crocheting projects are being carried on. Miss Scottena Lawrence won this year's county W.I. bursary and is taking the Teachers' Course at Macdonald College. Cookshire gave \$10 to a girl and \$50 to a boy to further their studies and have purchased dishes for the school. The booth at the Fair netted \$118.25 and a food sale brought \$41. The School Fair was sponsored and plans made for next year, with \$25 voted for this

purpose. Rev. Mr. Dunn gave a talk on "The Magdalen Islands". Canterbury heard a paper on "The Origin of Maple Trees". Members contributed food for the Bury School opening. Two members, Mrs. Bennett and Mrs. Sharman, were speakers at the Scotstown meeting, and five members are in the Painting for Pleasure class. A debate, "Resolved that country children have more advantages than city children" resulted in a tie. East Clifton entertained the county president, Mrs. S. B. Coates, and the county secretary, Mrs. Dougherty, the former giving a talk on "Canada Day". Teachers from the Sawyerville School were also guests. Mr. Standish of the International Harvester Co., gave a deep freeze demonstration. East Angus obtained books from the travelling library for the school and gave prizes in the school for general improvement in Welfare and Health. A paper drive netted \$20. Scotstown had Mrs. Bennett as guest speaker who gave a description of the pageant on Canada Day. Mrs. Sharman, another guest, told of the value of publicity to any organization and stated 150 articles, the exhibit at Cookshire fair, were afterward sent to Korea, Greece and Italy. Members from here were also in the Painting for Pleasure class. Scotstown Juniors welcomed six members. Their counsellors are Mrs. Lenny and Mrs. McIver. All members brought a pattern for a blouse. South Newport entertained the semi-annual. Mrs. Sawer of New Zealand and Mrs. Beattie of Richmond, were guest speakers. Mrs. Cora Austin, the branch's oldest member, (over 80 years) received a generous donation from Mr. Russell Planche.

**Gaspé:** Haldimand had a paper on "Immigration" by the Citizenship convenor, Mrs. Geo. Patterson, and a contest, "Prime Ministers of Canada" was held. Two new members enrolled and \$10 was donated to county



Dundee Branch—Taken at the home of Mrs. Earl Gardiner who holds the cat. In the front row are left to right: Mrs. W. E. Bernhardt, county president; Lady Nuttall, Q.W.I. representative on the London, England Board of the ACWW; Mrs. Wm. MacPherson; Mrs. Lyle Currie, local president; Jessie Fraser and Mrs. John Fleming. Mrs. W. C. Smallman, second from right, standing.

funds. *L'Anse-aux-Cousins* had a profitable "Pay by Size of Waist" roll call. An article, "Beautiful Craftsmanship from Canada's Ten Provinces" was read by the convenor of Publicity and cotton for the Cancer Society was brought in. *Sandy Beach* held a sugar cookie contest with prizes, and a demonstration on canning was given by the president, Mrs. Chester Miller. A film, "The Magic Shelf" loaned by the Campbell Soup Co., was enjoyed. Donations were \$15 to the Q.W.I. Service Fund, \$25 to the local branch of the Legion, \$5 to the "Barley Fund for Korean Children" and flannelette for nightgowns and wool for socks, also for the Korean children. *Wakeham* entertained all the other branches for a social evening of films, games and refreshments. Donations were made to the county fund, the Q.W.I. Service Fund and a box of clothing to the W.A. for Labrador. An article was read by the Citizenship convenor. *York* raised \$90 at a dance for W.I. funds and donated \$60 to the Cemetery Fund.

**Gatineau:** *Aylmer East* featured a talk on rug-making by three members. A contest on drop cookies was won by Mrs. J. C. Jameison. *Breckenridge* held a discussion on "How to Improve our School Fair". A successful one was held this year with entries showing an improvement over last year. Talks were given by the respective convenors on "Education" and "Citizenship" and a guest gave a paper on "Dieting". "How to Iron a Man's Shirt in Four Minutes", was another helpful talk. *Rupert* voted money for prizes in three district schools. More bulbs were planted in the cemetery. *Wakefield* sends representatives to both school board and village council meetings, reporting back matters of interest to the branch (something the Q.W.I. executive would like done by every branch). A large carton of clothing and shoes was sent to the W.V.S. for Korean relief. Much of this report tells of the continued interest and support for the new hospital in that community. *Wright* heard a travelogue on a trip to England, Ireland, France and Italy by Mrs. W. P. McConnery, who was in London for the Coronation. A paper on "Nylon" and a contest "Impersonating your Fellow Member" were other features of the program. The sum of \$152.06 was earned by catering to the Upper Gatineau Plowing Match. *Kazabazua* had its usual successful school fair. A new school was opened recently, for which the W.I. did much fine publicity work.

**Jacques-Cartier:** *Ste. Annes* members are sponsoring card parties in their homes which have proved successful. The film, "Man Alive", and a talk by Miss M. S. Taylor of the Cancer Society, formed the program at the meeting. A gift was presented to Miss M. Stewart, dietitian Macdonald College, in appreciation of help given with the tea served by this branch when the ACWW delegates visited the College.

**Mégantic:** *Inverness* made plans for a short course to be held. Moving pictures were shown and \$10 donated to the skating rink.



Quyon's first prize float in the Coronation Day parade at Shawville. "Mrs. Bean's Hotel" is in the background where King Edward VII (then Prince of Wales) is supposed to have stayed on his trip to Pontiac.

**Missisquoi:** *Cowansville* reports a hobby show and handicraft exhibit, and a successful tea and sale. *Fordyce* had a guessing contest conducted by the Sunshine convenor, and \$20 was voted to the Q.W.I. Service Fund.

**Montcalm:** *Rawdon* held a well-attended card party. A lecture on "The Care of Woodlots" was sponsored by the W.I. This was bi-lingual and was largely attended by the public. Mr. T. Boivin, of the Consolidated Paper Co., *Grand Mere*, was the speaker and two films were shown depicting the proper care of wood lots.

**Papineau:** *Lochaber* held a Wearever Brush demonstration to aid branch funds. Knitted squares are being made for Korea and the branch has organized a Farm Forum.

**Pontiac:** *Clarendon* received thanks for support of Shawville and Quyon fairs. An apron donated by Mrs. H. Hodgins, was sold to aid the treasury. *Shawville* held a telephone bridge, realizing \$24. A trip to Renfrew, for a bridge and show, took the place of a regular meeting. *Wyman* heard a report of the ACWW Conference by Miss A. S. Pritchard. Mrs. H. Kelly read a paper on "Macintosh Apples" and a poem, written by Miss Lucy Edey 60 years ago, was read. *Quyon* entertained the semi-annual county meeting.

**Richmond:** *Cleveland* had a visit from the county president, Mrs. A. Paige. A jumbled word contest, with prizes, was conducted by the Citizenship convenor, Mrs. W. Gilchrist and around \$30 were realized from a masquerade party and mystery sale. Each member donated 25 cents to the Q.W.I. Service Fund. *Denison's Mills* gave \$10 to a needy family and heard an article on the new ACWW president, Mrs. Berry, read by the Publicity convenor, Mrs. L. Armstrong. *Gore* held a jam shower for the Wales Home. Magazine subscriptions were sent to two schools and also given as Christmas gifts to aged members. Christmas cards are being sold to aid funds. *Melbourne Ridge* heard a reading "Entertainment Tax for the W.I. in England", by the Citizenship convenor, Mrs. C. Nelson. Birthday parcels auctioned at the meeting netted \$1.55 and a party yielded \$35.66.

Richmond Hill had a demonstration on Smocking given by Mrs. L. Driver and a holder contest was held. A Sewing course, under the supervision of Miss Campbell, has been completed. Richmond J.W.I. also had a smocking demonstration by Mrs. Driver. *Spooner Pond* held a "Know Your Names in the News" contest, with Mrs. V. R. Beattie winning the prize. A donation of  $9\frac{1}{2}$  lbs. of cotton was sent the Cancer Society. A card party brought \$25.59, the CAC membership was paid and \$5 sent the Q.W.I. Service Fund. *Windsor Mills* held a cookie contest with Mrs. Y. Alain winning the prize.

**Rouville:** Abbotsford had an open evening (gentlemen invited) when Mr. W. H. Bowley of H. C. Downham Nursery Co., Ltd., and his assistant, Mr. Souci, showed a coloured film on "Beautifying Canada".

**Shefford:** *Granby Hill* had a paper on "Citizenship" read by Mrs. M. Neil and another on "Agriculture" by Mrs. R. Robinson. Articles for the sale were handed in and \$5 donated to the Salvation Army. Warden attended a Farm Forum meeting when the topic was "Partners All". Suitable crafts for children were discussed at their own meeting.

**Sherbrooke:** *Ascot* had a report of the visit by members to the Home Demonstration Club at Newport, Vt.; Mrs. B. Hyatt, recently returned from England, gave a talk on her trip; and Mrs. W. S. Richardson told of visiting a greenhouse in Ossining, N.Y. Mrs. R. S. Lipsey and her husband were presented with a gold coloured wool blanket on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. *Belvidere* presented a gift to a bride-to-be, also a gift to a young mother. *Brompton Road* heard Rev. Mr. Tait, with a talk on Newfoundland, and articles were read on "The Proper Way to Bring up Children" by Mrs. D. Cullins, and "Health" by Mrs. L. Clark. A lemon pie contest was held, after which the pies were auctioned. *Cherry River* entertained the county president, Miss V. I. Hatch, and the two vice-presidents, Mrs. B. Turner and Miss Edna Smith. A discussion on book-keeping was held and the contest, guessing the weight of a squash, was won by Miss Hatch. *Lennoxville* had a talk by Mrs. Abercrombie on her western tour, illustrated with photos and souvenirs. The convenor of Welfare & Health, Mrs. E. L. Day, attended a Cancer Society meeting in Sherbrooke. *Milby* brought vegetables to the meeting which were donated to the Salvation Army. Other donations were \$1 per member to the Q.W.I. Service Fund, \$5 each to Lennoxville High School, Waterville School and Cancer Fund. *Orford* paid its share toward the Nurse's Bursary and voted \$5 to the School Fair. An article, "Education in the School" was read by the convenor of Education and "Women and the World's Food" by the convenor of Home Economics. The annual tea and food sale was the usual success.

**Stanstead:** *North Hatley* entertained the county semi-annual meeting, when Mrs. LeBaron's talk on the ACWW Conference was featured. A report was given of the annual county project, the rummage sale at the school fair in Ayer's Cliff. It was decided to send all articles left over to the Salvation Army. A letter was read from Lady Nuttall, Q.W.I. representative on the ACWW Executive Committee, and an honorary member of the Ayer's Cliff branch.

**Vaudreuil:** *Cavagnal* realized a large sum of money from the sale of a quilt. A film was shown on the uses of canned soups and folders containing the recipes of dishes shown were distributed. A glove course is being held, Miss Hesel instructing. *Harwood* presented music medals to three girls, and a girl attending Macdonald High School won the branch bursary of \$50. Members voted \$10 for a food parcel to a needy family. The film "Children's Concert" was shown at the meeting.

## FTE Makes Its Appearance

All plants need food. And all farmers know that the three main requirements, nitrogen, phosphorus and potash, are commonly added to the soil by the use of commercial fertilizers.

But there are other elements which plants need for proper growth. They are needed in only very small amounts, and for this reason are often referred to as "trace elements." Usually these materials are present in sufficient quantity in normal soil, but a lack of one or more is sometimes noticed. Farmers who have had experience with brown heart of turnips (due to lack of boron) and apple growers who have struggled with manganese or other deficiencies have learned this fact the hard way.

Canadian Industries Limited have recently put a new product on the market which contains these minor or trace elements, in a new form which makes them available to plants slowly and over a long period of time. There is no danger of the materials leaching out of the soil; they will not become chemically "fixed" and hence not available to the plants, nor is there any danger to the plants through excessive uptake.

The more important of these minor elements, namely iron, copper, zinc, manganese, boron and molybdenum, are usually applied to the soil in the form of their soluble salts, and applying these salts in the very small amounts required has always been difficult. The new product changes all this.

C.I.L. solved the problem by dissolving a mixture of the six elements in a combination of glass-forming materials. The resulting molten "glass" is shattered or "fritted" by being plunged into cold water, and the resulting particles are then ground to a fine powder.



## THE COLLEGE PAGE

### The Macdonald Clan

*Notes and News of Staff Members and Former Students*

#### Mrs. Roosevelt Welcomed



Macdonald College was honoured last month by a visit from Mrs. Eleanor Roosevelt, who had accepted the invitation to deliver the eighth War Memorial Address. During her day-long stay at the College Mrs. Roosevelt was entertained at separate receptions given by student executives and by staff

members, and received a Doctor of Laws degree at a special University Convocation held just before the Address.

The Memorial Clock, the tablet below it, and the oak trees surrounding the playing field constitute, together with a Book of Remembrance, our memorial to students and staff members who served in the first world war. Following the second war, contributions from students and graduates made it possible to construct a Memorial Entrance to the Library, which provides space for the two Books of Remembrance, and to set up a fund to enable us to bring to the College, once a year, some eminent person who will give an address, ". . . the subject of which will be such as to promote an intelligent understanding of world affairs by young Canadians, and inspire them to do their part toward the maintenance of freedom, tolerance and the improvement of human relations." A person more fitted to carry out this task than Mrs. Roosevelt can hardly be imagined.

The ceremonies connected with the Address are most impressive. Into the Assembly Hall, crowded to the doors with students and other members of the College community, come the colourfully-gowned members of the staff of the College and the governors and deans of the University. In reverent silence, broken only by the soft strains of the organ, a wreath is placed by the vice-

president of the Students' Council, who this year is Miss Claire Millinchamp. Then comes the Memorial Address, the speaker introduced by the Chancellor of the University and thanked by the Principal.

#### Timber-r-r!

Some people seem to have the idea that agricultural college students aren't "practical" types. They should have seen a dozen of our boys in action at the Woods-men's Contest staged at McGill last month. Divided into two teams of six each, they chopped, sawed, split, pulp-threw, log-rolled and water-boiled their way to first and second place against teams from the other faculties of the University, and from Sir George Williams College in Montreal and Middlebury College in Vermont.

When the last chips had fallen one of the Mac teams had amassed 714 points and the other 604. Middlebury College was a close contender with 600, and McGill's Engineers were in fourth place with 537.

One of the Mac teams, captained by Don Nicholson of Cape Breton, N.S. consisted of Gus Smith and Dick Walton, fellow Nova Scotians, Bill Graham, Bruce Jones and George Pirie, all from Quebec. The other team captain was Mac Juby of Magog, Que. and included Nova Scotians Vic Moses and Roy Evans, Lorne Cock from New Brunswick and Quebecers Russ Suitor and Clinton Nesbitt.



These Macdonald College students are all winners of scholarships given by the Imperial Order Daughters of the Empire. From left to right they are E. E. Lister, Harvey Station, N.B., Ann Skafte, Cornwall, Ont., and Hugh Dickson, Puxley, England.

## There's Always Something New

**T**HREE'S a barn going up on the Senneville road, at the western end of the Island of Montreal, that has passersby stopping and rubbing their eyes, for it's like no barn they ever saw before. A glance at our photos will show why.

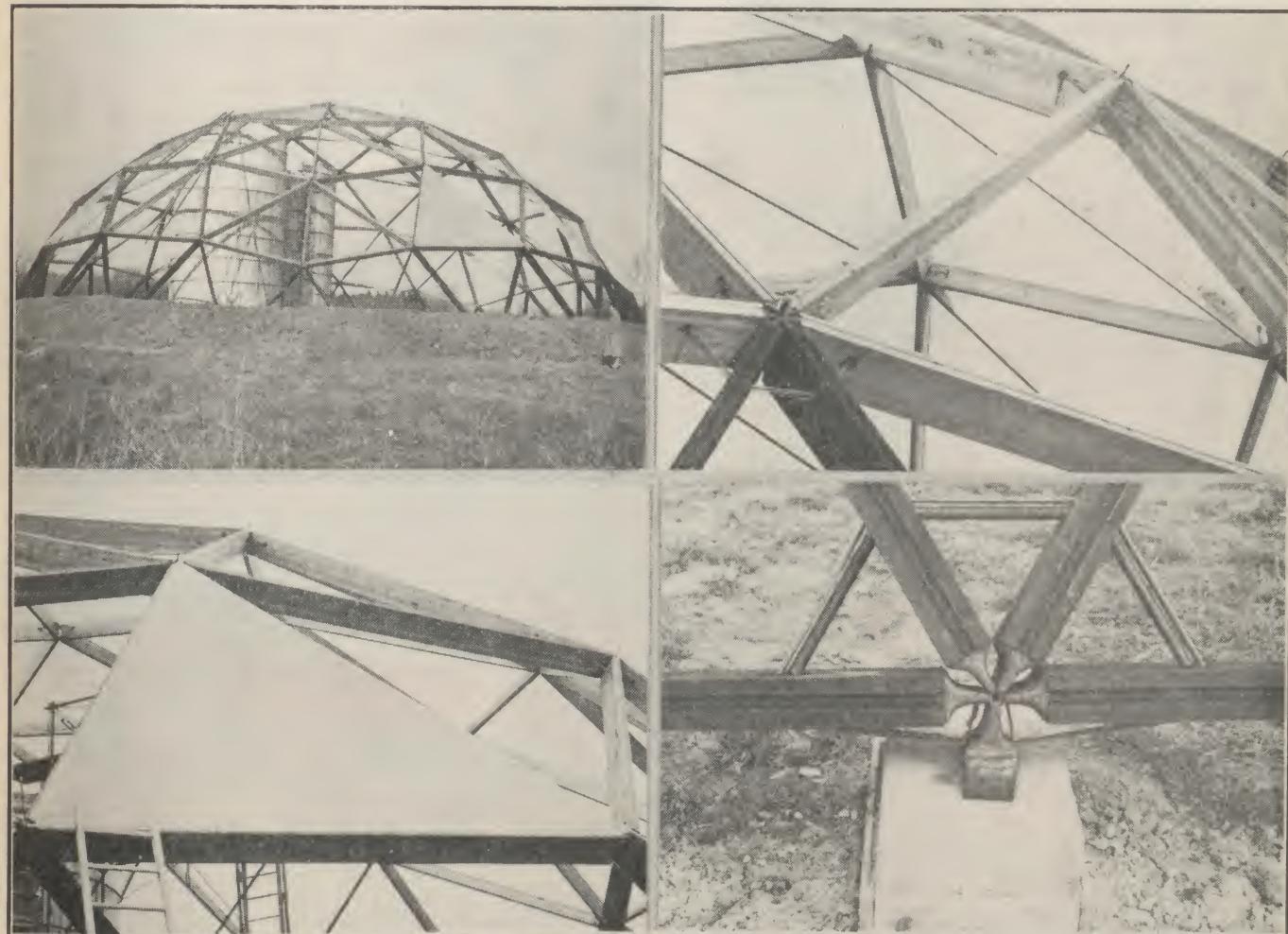
This barn is being built on the farm of Dr. John Hackney and is the brain-child of designer Jeffrey Lindsay of Fuller Research Foundation in Montreal. It is a giant dome, 80 feet across and about 40 feet high in the middle. There is absolutely no internal bracing. The frame-work is made of laminated Douglas fir planks, carefully cut to five different lengths before being assembled; an error in length of more than 1/64 inch would throw the design out of balance because the angles at the joints would not be correct. Where the planks join they are tied together with steel cables, as the illustration shows.

The covering is made of fiber-glass panels, triangular in shape and flanged on the sides to fit into grooves in the planks, to which they are fastened by aluminium strips held by screws into the wood. These panels are 1/16 inch thick and while they allow light to pass, they filter out some of the sun's heat rays.

The bottom six feet of the barn will be covered with a curtain made of orlon, which can be rolled up in the summer.

Within the building will be two 14 foot silos, a feed storage area, a milking parlour and milk house and a loose-housing unit.

It is claimed that barns of this type lend themselves well to mass production, are extremely strong and will have a very low depreciation. We'll tell you more about it when it is completed.



The barn looks like an Eskimo igloo, but is extremely strong. The first picture in the bottom row shows a close-up of one of the fiber-glass panels with which it is covered. The way the planks are fastened together is shown top right and at bottom right is a view of one of the anchors at the ground. This photo was taken before the earth embankment shown in the first picture had been thrown up.



*Season's Greetings*

M A C D O N A L D   T O B A C C O   C O M P A N Y